A Warning to the *Court*, *Parliament*, and *Army*.

Gregory Drawman

From a true Lover of his Country, and of all that love the Truth in Righteousnes.

Heartily desiring the Peace and welfare of these poore Nations, with Freedome and an Impartial administration of Justice, that Righteousnes might run down our streets like a flood, and truth be exalted.

Then will our God crown the labourers in, and doers of his work, with glory and honour, and at last Immortality.

LEt not any mans impatience, prejudice, or strong affection, carry him to the practise of, or an endeavouring to a settlement of the Nations on such Foundations, as may and will prove absolutely prejudiciall to the safety, peace and welfare of us, and our posterities.

We have for a long time prayed to our God in these words; *Lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from all Evill*; which is to be taken in a double sense: As,

Not to act Iniquity, from or by a Law, but to prevent it: and to be upon our watch, is in some measure, the answer of that part of the Lords Prayer.

Have not the English Nation, and the good, wise Senators therein experienced, how a single Persons Government, hath point blanck crossed their prayers, & their good intents when they were redy to put them into Laws for the good of posterity.

The whole prayer called the *Lords Prayer*, is not understood, nor doe most men understand what they doe, when they use it: for if they did but once understand what they pray for, they would act accordingly; *Thy will be done O Lord, on earth as it is in Heaven, &c.* And yet men, nay wise men, that daily use thiss prayer, will daily act contrary things, and lead themselve into temptations, to act one part of the Lords prayer.

But they will thrust us into the highest temptations that po-

ſblie can be on earth, and cunningly creep after themſelves: What greater temptation was ever any man led into, than the late Protector was; was he not led from one degree to another, till he grew ſo great and mightie, that his looks and threats could fright all men but fools.

Was he not a dread and terrour to that very Armie, that raiſed him from the mean condition he was once in, to all his greatneſſe: And could he not reward men at his will & pleaſure, ſome that never did the leaſt ſervice for the Nation, nor ever did venture a haire of their heads, nor ſpend a penny of mony in the Parliaments Cauſe with great places of truſt & profit, others that ventured their lives and eſtates, and received wounds and ſcars, did he reward with Ignominie and Reproach, Priſons, Baniſhment and great threats to others, that did but ſpeak for a righteous Government; What may otherwayes be now expected?

What is the L. *Fawconbridge*! & what has *Thurloe* done, but help ſubvert the Right, Liberty & Priviledge of the people of *England*.

Firſt Mr. *Hollis*, Maj. Gen. *Brown*, Cor. *Joyce* M.G. *Harriſon*, Quarterm. *Courtney*, Mr. *Can* Sr. *H Vaine*, M.G. *Overton*, Col. *Ockey*, and many others.

Was he not led into Temptations, when neither Law nor Juſtice could reach him.

Have men eyes & will not ſee, & ears & will not hear; & ſtill go on in hardning their hearts: Friends, My adviſe is, conſider and take heed, leaſt God come unaware & ſmite us with a curſe, and deſtroy our Nation for our hypocriſy, and ſinning againſt light and our own prayers.

Was not his caſe ſad, when his temptations led him to ſin againſt God, and his own prayers; alſo the light of his underſtanding and conſcience; his praiers and appeals to the righteous God ſtandeth regiſtred in Heaven and on Earth alſo; and yet will men follow his ſteps, and lead themſelves into temtation: ſuch men I would adviſe to leave of praying, and diſſemble no more with God nor your Countrie-men.

Was there ever any man in our daies raiſed to that name and fame of Religion and profeſſion, and led into ſo many ſnares and temptations. Its true, Chriſt Jeſus was taken up to a Pinacle, and ſhowed all the glory of the Earth; Then ſaid the Devil, all this I will give unto thee, if thou wilt fall down and

worſhip

worſhip me, Its worth our remembrance at this time.

Who would now be led or thruſt into temptation; Is it for nought, that God raiſeth up ſome poor worms to remind you of theſe things: Conſider, ye wiſe in heart, and prudent in underſtanding, and harden not your hearts in the dayes of temptation, when your fathers tempted you, leaſt Gods ſignal hand of judgement follow you and yours.

Was he not fed by the ſubtiltie and craft of ſome that knew his diſpoſition and temper, and heightned by them, untill his Kingly Domination and ſtroke fell on their heads.

For that was good Law and Juſtice, that formerly was Treaſon, Injuſtice, and breach of Priviledge, &c.

And is not the like now in this our day, hath not the ſubtiltie of ſome begotten Addreſſes from ſeveral parts; as if they were to the ſon of God, whileſt others nearer home are leading him into temptations, or thruſting him upon them; remember what is ſaid before: And it may be in time, you that are moſt eager for a ſingle Perſon, may feele the firſt ſtroke in bodie or ſoule, if not in both. * It was the late Protectors own Diſtitch. Its true, if you can touch Pitch, and not be defiled, you may do well; its a hard matter; did not the late great Governour inſnare ſome of all ſorts that ever came to him; and had he not a kinde of vertue that did run into men by his preſence, & had not the late King the ſame vertue, for no ſooner had any man kiſs'd their hands, & talked with him, but preſently cried him up; & is not the ſame vertue ſtill in one man when ſo lifted up; is he not cried up for a brave man and ſo forth, though he may be a Devill at heart: *Lead us not into temptation, nor your poſterities, I beg.*

* Princes enthroned, when once their turns are ended, hue down thoſe ſtaires by which themſelves aſcended.

How many degrees beyond the ordinary ſphear, have you thruſt good nature into; and will you ſtill go on, & bring him into all manner of temptations, & hereby beſot or bewitch the poor & ignorant men, makes me wonder & ask what's God doing.

Will you build again, that God once deſtroyed.

But its like you will ſet him as high as you can, and get gradually after him, and at length teach him to do as bad things as the old man did and his Predeceſſor, I mean the late King, untill the poor Nation be in the like condition, as it was, under Oppreſſion and Tirannie, againſt which was much

And many of you were Law makers for it.

blood and treasure spilt,& is like now to be contracted on them that did it: by the craft and subtilty of such as would be above or beyond law and reason, and unto this will the Lawyers lend their assistance; that so their work might increase, and will ere long draw up Indictments against all and every particular man that fought against the late King, for and in the Cause of the late Parliaments quarrell against him, there being law enough, say they, to hang every one of those that so fought or lent moneies; and is not this the best that is like to come to us, a setting men together by the ears, one family against another, till at length we come to miserie and confusion, ruine and desolation.

For the greatest part of the Lawyers did assist the King against the publick interest of the good people; also they that pretended to the good old cause, are since corrupted.

Lead us not into temptations, but deliver us from all evill O Lord.

And from a Lord above Law, though (never so just &c.) he pretend to protect us; least his little finger prove heavier than his fathers hand, which was bad enough.

I am perswaded that the late Protector was the wisest and best that ever *England* will have.

The old mans principles, are not his sons; and that wise men see and know.

Which makes men at this time strugle and strive, who shall lead him by—one is for this,& another for that; good reason will tell us,& also lead us out of Temptation,& not put us further into it: I pray consider & agree, put of the works of darkness & put on the Armor of light, who is for things & not men.

My meaning is this: God hath by a signall stroke of Justice taken away your King; and by his divine hand of Providence your Protector; and yet will you thrust your selves and one another into temptations, Make your heges and diches, bars, gates and stiles, never so strong, and he shall leap over them if not wholy beat them downe; and spoyle the best laws you can make, and men will be tempted to lift him up, (which need not) and he, when lifted up and setled, will pull them after, which is no new thing: such is & will be our opression.

Your sons must go to Court for preferment, your daughters must do the like, and doth not this lead into temptations: Galantry is a snare, voluptiousnesse is a snare; wantonesse is a delight, and naturall to a Court though of the meanest rank

or ſtamp, what iniquities is there, and you have not done it, and led us into? Pray conſider, before it be too late; time tarries for no man; do not die while you are alive: I ſpeak to all of all ſorts and all Powers: Your Fathers are dead, and ſome of us had been happy if we had never ſeen this day, and had been taken away from the evill, that is and is like to come; but a word to the wiſe is enough, onely let me mind you of one thing more, & then I ſhall by the mercy of God & his aſſiſtance be at reſt, & wait Gods further appearances & follow him.

The wiſe and praying man foreſeeth an evill and preventeth it; alſo God hath ſaid, the ſecrets of the Almighty are with them that fear him; and they ſhall not fear what man can do unto them; nor create fears and jealouſies to themſelves as ſome doe, nor ſubtilly make Bug-bears to fright poore ignorant men, as ſome do while ſome great ones act *Machivel*, & turn Atheiſts under a pretence of good, piety, & preſervation of the Libertie of Gods people; which Gods people hope they can truſt God with all; and ſo muſt doe when all vain hopes faile and fair pretences deceive us.

Let now our juſt Rights and Liberties be Aſſerted, and then no one ſingle Perſon can hurt another, then if he kill or hurt any, the law will hang the Murderer, though he be a mighty man; and if he ſteale away our monies and eſtates the Law will defend us; and the true genuine Law is and ought to be ſuch, and ſo ſettled and ſecured, that no man ſhould be above it, or out of the reacht thereof; but all men ſhould be put into ſuch a capacity, as he would they ſhould do to him, ſo he to doe to others, reſt.

Your true friend

Gregory Trewman.

POSTSCRIPT.

FOr Zions ſake, I will not hold my peace, nor can I be ſilent, when I ſee my Country-men like to be miſled and hurried into a ſeeming ſettlement, ſuch a one as will deſtroy them, that carrieth on ſo horrible a deſigne againſt God and their own Conſciences; And will not yeeld to be governed, as well as to govern

govern: which is the most Tirannical and destructive principle that can be in man; and that all good men fought against; or else why was the King put to death? I shall now put the Reader in mind of some notable and remarkable passages and practises, that have not commonly been known nor heard of.

To prevent my Countrymen in Parliament and elsewhere, from further temptations & snares, or thrusting others into slavery: take the King from his evill Councel, was our former Parliamentary, & Souldiers cry, also the Country cry; but it seems now to be forgotten or asleep; also that Reformation, which was once eminently pointed at, and hoped for, by all sober and good men. If a King or chief Magistrate shall be mislead by a fine thing, or a *Thurling* crafty and blustring sword, or by the cunning and craft of such Instruments; led into such a deportment as some great ones once were, though it is more his disstition to be Hawking, Hunting, &c.

My advise therefore is:

First, To you Army-men great and small, build not again the things God by you hath destroyed. Secondly, To you Country men, that are entrusted with your Countries Laws, Liberties and Estates; be not cheated nor frighted; God is at work discovering men and things. If this question should be asked, what is the man or his name, that goeth about to subvert the Liberties of the People of *England*, and would have Iniquity, or the thing God hath destroyed, settled by a Law? What service did he ever do for this Nation, but wickedly help to break the late Protectors heart; and ever more laid snares for men to destroy them; nay, such men as had been as eminently faithfull to the Parliament and their Cause as any. Be warned ye great ones, that have the least dram or spark of honesty, or fear of God before your eyes, or love to your Country. For the cunning and craft of some men, is to doe the Devils work, and to establish his Government and Kingdome, and to make his visegerent on earth. God is making a further discovery of men and things, and will break the hearts or necks of those

See how angry that angry party is, which was against bringing the King to Justice and had conjunction with *Charles* the Second.

thoſe that ſhall go on to ſettle Iniquity by a law againſt light, nay againſt their own Prayers, and ſolemn Appeals made to God in the daies of old, when they were in diſtreſſe, and knew not what to do.

Your Iniquities were almoſt done away, and you were once a ſweet ſavour in the Noſtrels of all good men, and the Lord owned you, and the hearts and praiers of Gods people were the wals and bulworks, and God gave you great deliverances.

But now your iniquities begin to be like ſcarlet, double died in contracting all the blood that hath been ſpilt on your own and your poſterities heads; and putting your ſelves into a blood thirſting poſture again; for the witnes of God and good people hath been and is ſtill going out againſt you and your acting, and will not hold their peace, nor keep ſilence any longer. Your Idoll when ſet up muſt be worſhipped and adored, your voluptuouſneſs and wantoneſs muſt be maintained, and all out of the peoples labours; you will firſt take their monies, then their goods, and laſtly their fleſh from their bones.

Who would not now be a Courtier, when he is like to be above all Law or Juſtice, and out of the reach of both.

The Gentleman muſt think to breed his ſons at no other place, nor to marrie his daughters to any other Trades men but Courtiers; and then ſee what glorious reformation we are at laſt like to have.

I pray you my Lord *Fleetwood* and Major General *Disborough*, and the reſt, leave off praying, and diſſemble no longer with God and your ſelves and good men, and ſay to us in plain terms, you will have all our Eſtates, our Lives, our Wives at your wils and pleaſures: or be honeſt.

And remember that after a little while God will Call you to an account and you muſt die as the late Protector did, and go to judgement, which I fear you little think of.

Alſo God may ſuddenly ſay, bring thoſe mine enemies before me, that would not have Chriſt to raign over them, and ſlay them before my face.

Remember Gods appearance to *Solomon* once and twice; and he ſlighted the call or voice of God, and ſee what followed:

And

And when he was going to leave all his glory and honour, which was much more than yours is or ever will be, he ſaid all was vanity and vexation of ſpirit: (ſome ſaid with men in our dayes) and hard to leave off and forſake; but I had rather be a doore keeper in the houſe of my God, than to dwell with the workers of iniquity (from whom good Lord deliver me and all thy dear and precious ones) their ſnares, baits, and temptations are many, and of the moſt glorious colours; golden baits, ſuch as the Devils inſtruments do fiſh with all to catch and bewitch men.

A great place and a gallant incomb out of the poor country mans labours, which makes them forget God and oppreſs this Nation.

And were it not for ſome ſuch ſmooth ſtuff, ſpecioufly guilded over with glorious words, and fair pretences, & ſomtimes with frights and Bugbears; Gods work would go ſwifter on, and men would truſt God more in the work of God, while its called to day: For time tarrieth for no man, nor can this day be to morrow, or another time; therefore up and be doing, and a-riſe from the dead, and Chriſt ſhall give the life and ſtrength, if thou wilt but truſt him in the uſe of means; and in him I reſt,

Thine for truth and Juſtice till death.